

# CALL FOR NEW MEMBERS: EUROPEAN APPRENTICES NETWORK NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Deadline: 19/02/2019, 23.59 CET (Brussels time)

## Who we are and why are looking for new Members

The European Apprentices Network (EAN) is a network of apprentices, youth organisations and other bodies related to apprenticeships at the European level. EAN was established in 2017 to ensure that young apprentices both in secondary and third-level education are shaping the discussion and policymaking related to VET, in particular for apprenticeships.

In the past 2 years, we piloted our cooperation as individuals, European representation bodies and National VET students and apprentices representations and **it was a success!** In just two years, we have been recognised as a relevant voice in debates concerning apprenticeships and vocational education and training, thanks to our strong cooperation with the European Commission and the European Alliance for Apprenticeships. Some of our highlights include the creation of our 7 priorities, the contribution to the Council Recommendations on Quality Apprenticeships and the current #AskTheApprentice survey, with which we are collecting information on quality of apprenticeships from the learners' perspective.

From 2020 we will **expand our membership to encompass active individual apprentices looking to develop new representation structures** where none exist, a collaborative network of the existing apprentice representation bodies, (such as yourselves) and the European organisations active in the field of apprenticeships. The network will be made of 15 individuals, 15 national organisations and 8 European organisations which will later on elect a steering group of 12, balanced across its 3 groups of members. **And this is where you**

**come in! Come and join us as an organisation representing apprentices on the national level.**

## **Who you are and what you will be doing**

As a national member, your organisation would commit to being a permanent member of the European Apprentices Network and contribute with your policy, your ideas and your representation structures to the developments of other representative bodies on the European level.

As an organisation the fundamental criteria is that you specifically represent VET students, apprentices or students in work based learning and that these students are the main leadership of the organisation.

As a national member, **you will then need to nominate a permanent delegate**. The permanent delegate can be changed by the nominating organisation.

The delegate to the EAN should be:

- A current/recent apprentice; OR a student representative; OR active nationally/internationally on VET /apprenticeship policy;
- Available to attend online and offline meetings abroad
- Willing and have the capacity to meaningfully contribute to the work of the EAN in-between physical meetings through the online platforms made available to the Network, and communicate about it to external stakeholders in your country and at European level.
- Able to communicate in English at a conversational level
- Motivated to engage other apprentices on the local and national level with the idea of creating a national representation body in your country
- Able to contribute the policies of the national organisation to the EAN and reverse, bring back the EAN discussions on the national level

## **What will the EAN do in the next 2 years**

In 2020 and 2021, the European Apprentices Network will be engaged in:

- **Supporting independent apprentices representation**
  - Supporting the development of national representation, specifically countries without representation
  - Growing & Supporting existing national representation also through country specific study visits

- Fostering direct collaboration with apprentices organisations to learn and exchange with each other
- **Advocating for quality apprenticeships through our 7 key priorities**
  - Producing policy and position papers on the basis of experience and evidence
  - Providing opinions and evidence to European institutions on apprenticeships and VET
  - Participating in developing quality national policies
- **Promoting the image of apprenticeships**
  - Being a motivational voice at the forefront of dissemination
  - Aim at providing guidance and support to perspective apprentices
- **Building partnerships and cooperation with other stakeholders**
  - Supporting companies to develop quality apprenticeships, specifically from the participation perspective
  - Working in synergy with companies and other VET providers
  - Contributing to the European Alliance for Apprenticeships
- **Organising Statutory meetings to shape the directions of the Network**

Members of the European Apprentices Network are expected to:

- Be available to attend the relevant physical meetings and participate actively to online discussions and on-going processes (input, analysis, discussion, feedback);
- Be available to attend the launch meeting of the Network on 1-2 April 2020 in Barcelona, Spain (travel and accommodation expenses covered)
- Contribute to collecting information/best practices/national examples on the topic and share the information , within the Network;
- Promote the Network and apprenticeships as worthwhile career choice (e.g. through ambassadors for apprenticeships) in their country and represent the Network at European level;.
- Write articles for the EAN, contribute to publications and studies on apprenticeships;
- Assess European Commission's proposals on Vocational Education and Training and apprenticeships, and provide input and feedback through the support of the Secretariat of the European Apprentices Network

Disclaimer: Members who will be engaged in the Steering Committee will be expected to travel at least 4 times a year to meetings of the European Alliance for Apprenticeships. Regular members will travel on ad-hoc basis but are expected to engage online.

## **Selection process**

The Selection process will be carried out by OBESSU and the National Society of Apprentices through their Staff Members on the basis of the above mentioned criteria and the motivation expressed in the application form. These criteria were developed by the current EAN members.

In the selection process, special attention will be put on:

- Having a balanced composition in terms of current and/or recent former apprentices taking part both as individuals, as well as representatives of relevant youth structures.
- Gender balance.
- Geographical balance.

## **Contacts**

Please feel free to contact us about the call writing to [ean@obessu.org](mailto:ean@obessu.org)

**INTERESTED?**

**APPLY THROUGH THE FORM HERE**

**( <https://forms.gle/XDJ3PeXcp3W666X36> )**